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EXAMINER

PATEL, ASHOKKUMAR B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 09/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/774,999

Applicant(s)

MOYER ET AL.

Examiner

Ashok B. Patel

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 August 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,4,6-9,13,16-18,22-24,26 and 27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3,4,6-9,13, 16-18, 22-24, 26 and 27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 3,4,6-9,13, 16-18, 22-24, 26 and 27 are subject to examination.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments filed June 24, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive for the following reasons:

- a. Applicant's assertions that "Applicants' invention allows users to remotely send instructive commands to home network appliances and to receive status information from these appliances using a modified SIP (session initiation protocol) network.", "Specifically. SIP was originally developed for creating, modifying and terminating interactive communication sessions between one or more points.", and "Applicants' invention modifies to specifically control network appliances thereby not requiring a corresponding session be established." are noted by the Examiner. Also noted is "Significantly, Moore also focuses on telephony applications and in particular, describes a voice over packet example where the MGCP signaling protocol (the MGCP protocol is conceptually similar to SIP) is used to establish telephony sessions over the HFC network to a telephony device in the home network. Here, MGCP signaling occurs over the HFC network to the HFG then converts MGCP to a home networking protocol for communicating with a telephony device in the home network." (page 12/15).

- b. In response to Applicant's arguments that "However, as just described, the obvious combination of Gawagy's teachings to Nuutinen and Moore is the use of SIP to communicate with an AS that is located in the telephony infrastructure and where these SIP commands contain instructions directed at enabling IN/AN functionality. Nothing in

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Nuutinen, Moore, or Gawagy motivates one to combine Gawagy 's teachings to Nuutinen and Moore to use SIP to convey appliance specific instructions to home networked appliances and to do so without establishing sessions with these home networked appliances, as amended claim 1 recites.", which is in fact taught by the reference Gawagy, which teaches, as stated in previous office action, "The reference Gawagy teaches a functional content of a transaction message is encapsulated in a Protocol Data Unit (PDU) of the broadband packet network. The PDU is forwarded through the broadband packet network to a second network element. The functionality is then invoked using the encapsulated transaction functional content (DO type). (page 2 para. [0011]). The reference also teaches the broadband packet network comprises an IP Network, and the PDU comprises a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) message envelope. In such cases, the functional content of an IN/AIN message may be inserted into a Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) part of the SIP envelope. (page 3, para. [0014]). (the command message is a SIP message type that has the connection established phase removed and the command message payload is a device messaging protocol (DMP) MIME type.). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a translator function providing compatibility and the Gawagy's PDU comprising a SIP message envelope such that the message functionality is invoked using the encapsulated transaction functional

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content and delivered on the IP network. Thus, the advantage of the present invention is that conventional functional content of a transaction message can be transported across the network to a Server to invoke the functionality.”.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 3,4,6-9,13, 22-24, 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nuutinen (US 2002/0129236 A1) in view of Moore JR. et al. (hereinafter Moore)(US 2002/0021465 A1) and further in view of Gawargy et al. (hereinafter Gawargy)(US 2002/0141381 A1).

**Referring to claim 1,**

The reference Nuutinen teaches the User Agent Server (UAS) is a server application that contacts the user when a SIP request is received and that returns a response on behalf of the user and the User Agent Client (UAC) is a client application that initiates a SIP request. (page 3, para. [0043] and [0044]). The reference also teaches INVITE: invites user (callee) to a session or a conference. (page 3, [0064]).The reference fails to teach the UAS processor as being connected to the appliance. The reference Moore teaches the home networking gateway (HNG or CG of Fig.1, element 10) providing an interface between an HFC network and an in-home network. Full voice and data

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connection between the HFC network and each device in the in-home network is provided through the interface. A translator included in the home networking gateway is utilized to provide a mapping between the communication protocols used in the in-home network and the protocols used in the HFC network, eliminating the need for the in-home network to be dependent upon the HFC-specific protocols. (Abstract). Thereby, the reference teaches that the HFC-specific protocols are immaterial to CG (HNG) and can be replaced to handle SIP. The reference also teaches a home networking gateway (HNG) is used as an interface between an HFC network and the home devices and includes the capability of "discovering" the various devices attached to the in-home network. (appliance status information).(page 1, para.[0010]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a translator function providing compatibility as taught by Moore. Both of these references fails to teach the SIP command message that includes a universal resource locator (URL) without location information otherwise specified in the SIP message, the command message has the connection established phase removed such that no session is established between the UAC processor and UAS processor, and the command message has a generalized payload body with at least one of control and query instructions specific to appliances, and. The reference Gawargy teaches a functional content of a transaction message is encapsulated in a Protocol Data Unit

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(PDU) of the broadband packet network. The PDU is forwarded through the broadband packet network to a second network element. The functionality is then invoked using the encapsulated transaction functional content. (page 2 para.[0011]). The reference also teaches the broadband packet network comprises an IP Network, and the PDU comprises a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) message envelope. In such cases, the functional content of an IN/AIN message may be inserted into a Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) part of the SIP envelope. (page 3, para.[0014]). (the command message has the connection established phase removed such that no session is established between the UAC processor and UAS processor,) .Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a translator function providing compatibility and the Gawargy's PDU comprising a SIP message envelope such that the message functionality is invoked (the command message has a generalized payload body with at least one of control and query instructions specific to appliances) using the encapsulated transaction functional content and delivered on the IP network (the SIP command message that includes a universal resource locator (URL) without location information otherwise specified in the SIP message, the command message identifies the appliance to which the message is addressed). Thus, the advantage of the present invention is that conventional functional

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content of a transaction message can be transported across the network to a Server to invoke the functionality.

**Referring to claims 3 and 4,**

Keeping in mind the teachings of the references Nuutinen and Moore, , the command message is a SIP DO type, and the command message payload is a device messaging protocol (DMP) MIME type. The reference Gawargy teaches a functional content of a transaction message is encapsulated in a Protocol Data Unit (PDU) of the broadband packet network. The PDU is forwarded through the broadband packet network to a second network element. The functionality is then invoked using the encapsulated transaction functional content (DO type). (page 2 para.[0011]). The reference also teaches the broadband packet network comprises an IP Network, and the PDU comprises a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) message envelope. In such cases, the functional content of an IN/AIN message may be inserted into a Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) part of the SIP envelope. (page 3, para.[0014]). (the command message is a SIP message type that has the connection established phase removed and the command message payload is a device messaging protocol (DMP) MIME type.). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a translator function providing compatibility and the Gawargy's PDU comprising a SIP message envelope such that the message functionality is



invoked using the encapsulated transaction functional content and delivered on the IP network. Thus, the advantage of the present invention is that conventional functional content of a transaction message can be transported across the network to a Server to invoke the functionality.

**Referring to claim 6,**

The reference Nuutinen teaches the User Agent Server (UAS) is a server application that contacts the user when a SIP request is received and that returns a response on behalf of the user and the User Agent Client (UAC) is a client application that initiates a SIP request. (page 3, para. [0043] and [0044]). The reference fails to teach the UAS processor as being connected to the home appliance. The reference Moore teaches the home networking gateway (HNG or CG of Fig.1, element 10) providing an interface between an HFC network and an in-home network. Full voice and data connection between the HFC network and each device in the in-home network is provided through the interface. A translator included in the home networking gateway is utilized to provide a mapping between the communication protocols used in the in-home network and the protocols used in the HFC network, eliminating the need for the in-home network to be dependent upon the HFC-specific protocols. (Abstract). Thereby, the reference teaches that the HFC-specific protocols are immaterial to CG (HNG) and can be replaced to handle SIP. The reference also teaches a home networking gateway (HNG) is used as an interface between an HFC network and the home devices and includes the capability of "discovering" the various devices attached to the in-home network. page 1, para.[0010]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having

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ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a translator function providing compatibility as taught by Moore.

**Referring to claim 7,**

Keeping in mind the teaching of the reference Nuutinen as stated above, the reference fails to teach the UAS processor as being connected to the appliance. In addition to the above, the reference Moore teaches the home network (Fig.3, element 15) containing "Dongle" (Fig.3, element 58) (appliance controller), which is located between HNG (USA processor) and the appliance, which converts digital signals to analog signals to the device.(appliance) (page 2,[0028]). (including an appliance controller located between said UAS processor and said appliance, said controller translating commands from said UAS processor into signals which control operation of said appliance and translating status signals from said appliance into signals which can be translated by said UAS processor.). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a translator function providing compatibility as taught by Moore. This allows a home network to be used to transport a digital telephone signal that is converted back to analog at the dongle (controller). As

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stated, the controller (dongle 58 communicates with HFC network 14 through HNG 30) acts as an extension of both the SIP UAC and SIP UAS (HFC and HNG) into the home as taught by Moore.

**Referring to claims 8 and 9,**

The reference Nuutinen teaches the User Agent Server (UAS) is a server application that contacts the user when a SIP request is received and that returns a response on behalf of the user and the User Agent Client (UAC) is a client application that initiates a SIP request. (page 3, para. [0043] and [0044]). The reference also teaches INVITE: invites user (callee) to a session or a conference. (page 3, [0064]). The reference fails to teach the UAS processor as being connected to the appliance. The reference Moore teaches the home networking gateway (HNG or CG of Fig.1, element 10) providing an interface between an HFC network and an in-home network. Full voice and data connection between the HFC network and each device in the in-home network is provided through the interface. A translator included in the home networking gateway is utilized to provide a mapping between the communication protocols used in the in-home network and the protocols used in the HFC network, eliminating the need for the in-home network to be dependent upon the HFC-specific protocols. (Abstract and Fig.1)(at least one of a plurality of networked appliance in one geographic region, comprising a user agent server (UAS) processor connected by a local area network to at least two of said appliances, said UAS processor having address mapping capability so as to direct commands to a selected at least one of said at least two appliances and receive status information from said at least one appliance). Thereby, the reference teaches that the

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HFC-specific protocols are immaterial to CG (HNG) and can be replaced to handle SIP. The reference also teaches a home networking gateway (HNG) is used as an interface between an HFC network and the home devices and includes the capability of "discovering" the various devices attached to the in-home network. (wherein the status information from each of the plurality of appliances identifies the appliance from which it originated, and the address mapping of the UAS processor includes an identification of the appliance in the SIP status messages sent to said UAC.) (page 1, para.[0010]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a translator function providing compatibility as taught by Moore. It is also, obvious from the reference Moore's teaching and as depicted in Fig. 1, that the system can be installed for the plurality of locations, each with a plurality of networked appliances, and each location is serviced by a different UAS connected to the plurality of appliances in that location. Both of these references fails to teach the SIP command message that includes a universal resource locator (URL) without location information otherwise specified in the SIP message, the command message identifies the appliance to which the message is addressed, the command message has the connection established phase removed such that no session is established between the UAC processor and UAS processor, and the command message has a generalized payload body with at least one of control and query instructions specific to appliances.

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The reference Gawargy teaches a functional content of a transaction message is encapsulated in a Protocol Data Unit (PDU) of the broadband packet network. The PDU is forwarded through the broadband packet network to a second network element. The functionality is then invoked using the encapsulated transaction functional content. (page 2 para.[0011]). The reference also teaches the broadband packet network comprises an IP Network, and the PDU comprises a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) message envelope. In such cases, the functional content of an IN/AIN message may be inserted into a Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) part of the SIP envelope. (page 3, para.[0014]).(the command message has the connection established phase removed such that no session is established between the UAC processor and UAS processor,) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a translator function providing compatibility and the Gawargy's PDU comprising a SIP message envelope such that the message functionality is invoked (the command message has a generalized payload body with at least one of control and query instructions specific to appliances) using the encapsulated transaction functional content and delivered on the IP network (the SIP command message that includes a universal resource locator (URL) without location information otherwise specified in the SIP message, the command message identifies the appliance to which the message is addressed). Thus, the advantage of the present invention is that

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conventional functional content of a transaction message can be transported across the network to a server to invoke the functionality.

**Referring to claim 13,**

The reference Nuutinen teaches a server that accepts REGISTER requests, by which users can register, their location with SIP servers. (subscribe and notify)(page 3[0054]).

The reference also teaches the client requests invoke methods on the server. The request message consist of a start-line specifying the method and the protocol, a number of header fields specifying the call properties and service information (instant messaging), and an optional message body. The following methods are used in SIP.

REGISTER: conveys location information to a SIP server INVITE: invites user to session or a conference.(page 3, para. [0062]).

**Referring to claim 22,**

The reference Nuutinen teaches the claimed limitation.(page 3, [0058]).

**Referring to claims 23 and 24,**

The reference Nuutinen teaches the User Agent Server (UAS) is a server application that contacts the user when a SIP request is received and that returns a response on behalf of the user and the User Agent Client (UAC) is a client application that initiates a SIP request. (page 3, para. [0043] and [0044]). The reference also teaches INVITE: invites user (callee) to a session or a conference. (page 3, [0064]). The reference also teaches a proxy server through which sending and transmitting steps occur (Fig.6).

The reference fails to teach the UAS processor as being connected to the home appliance. The reference Moore teaches the home networking gateway (HNG or CG of

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Fig.1, element 10) providing an interface between an HFC network and an in-home network. Full voice and data connection between the HFC network and each device in the in-home network is provided through the interface. A translator included in the home networking gateway is utilized to provide a mapping between the communication protocols used in the in-home network and the protocols used in the HFC network, eliminating the need for the in-home network to be dependent upon the HFC-specific protocols. (Abstract). Thereby, the reference teaches that the HFC-specific protocols are immaterial to CG (HNG) and can be replaced to handle SIP. The reference also teaches a home networking gateway (HNG) is used as an interface between an HFC network and the home devices and includes the capability of "discovering" the various devices attached to the in-home network. (appliance status information).(page 1, para.[0010]). (receiving at the UAS processor status information from the appliance in response to a command message query; translating the status information into a SIP protocol status message; transmitting the protocol status message over the communications network to said UAC processor; and displaying the status at the UAC processor and receiving at the UAS processor the command message intended for said appliance; translating the received SIP command into instructions recognized by the appliance; and sending the instructions to the appliance.).Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a

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translator function providing compatibility as taught by Moore. Both of these references fails to teach the SIP command message that includes a universal resource locator (URL) without location information otherwise specified in the SIP message, and a generalized payload body with at least one of control and query instructions specific to appliances. The reference Gawargy teaches a functional content of a transaction message is encapsulated in a Protocol Data Unit (PDU) of the broadband packet network. The PDU is forwarded through the broadband packet network to a second network element. The functionality is then invoked using the encapsulated transaction functional content. (page 2 para.[0011]). The reference also teaches the broadband packet network comprises an IP Network, and the PDU comprises a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) message envelope. In such cases, the functional content of an IN/AIN message may be inserted into a Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) part of the SIP envelope. (page 3, para.[0014]). (the command message has the connection established phase removed such that no session is established between the UAC processor and UAS processor). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS and UAC by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a translator function providing compatibility and the Gawargy's PDU comprising a SIP message envelope such that the message functionality is invoked (the command message has a generalized payload body with at least one of control and query instructions specific to



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appliances) using the encapsulated transaction functional content and delivered on the IP network (forming at least one SIP command message that includes a universal resource locator (URL) without location information otherwise specified in the SIP message, the command message identifies the appliance to which the message is addressed and sending the SIP command messages to a user agent server (UAS) processor associated with said appliance over a communications network by means of a user agent client (UAC) processor;). Thus, the advantage of the present invention is that conventional functional content of a transaction message can be transported across the network to a server to invoke the functionality.

**Referring to claims 26 and 27,**

The reference Nuutinen teaches the User Agent Server (UAS) is a server application that contacts the user when a SIP request is received and that returns a response on behalf of the user and the User Agent Client (UAC) is a client application that initiates a SIP request. (page 3, para. [0043] and [0044]). The reference also teaches INVITE: invites user (callee) to a session or a conference. (page 3, [0064]). The reference fails to teach the UAS processor as being connected to the home appliance. The reference Moore teaches the home networking gateway (HNG or CG of Fig.1, element 10) providing an interface between an HFC network and an in-home network. Full voice and data connection between the HFC network and each device in the in-home network is provided through the interface. A translator included in the home networking gateway is utilized to provide a mapping between the communication protocols used in the in-home network and the protocols used in the HFC network, eliminating the need for the

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in-home network to be dependent upon the HFC-specific protocols. (Abstract and Fig.1)( wherein in addition to being connected to the at least one appliance said UAS processor is also connected to a second home networked appliance and wherein said UAS processor has address mapping capability so as to direct commands to a selected at least one of said at least one appliance and said second appliance). Thereby, the reference teaches that the HFC-specific protocols are immaterial to CG (HNG) and can be replaced to handle SIP. The reference also teaches a home networking gateway (HNG) is used as an interface between an HFC network and the home devices and includes the capability of "discovering" the various devices attached to the in-home network. (wherein the address mapping capability of the UAS processor directs commands to both of said at least one appliance and said second appliance.) (page 1, para.[0010]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a translator function providing compatibility as taught by Moore. It is also, obvious from the reference Moore's teaching and as depicted in Fig. 1, that the system can be installed for the plurality of locations, each with a plurality of networked appliances, and each location is serviced by a different UAS connected to the plurality of appliances in that location.

5. Claims 16, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nuutinen (US 2002/0129236), Moore JR. et al. (hereinafter Moore)(US

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2002/0021465 A1) and Gawargy et al. (hereinafter Gawargy)(US 2002/0141381 A1) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Geagan, III et al. (hereinafter Geagan)(US 6, 263, 371).

**Referring to claims 16, 17, and 18,**

Keeping in mind the teachings of the references as stated in claim 1, the reference Nuutinen teaches that the SIP is rather independent of the environment and can be used in conjunction with several transfer protocols. It does not require any specific transfer protocol but it is recommended that servers should support both UDP and TCP. The Session Description Protocol (SDP) is used by SIP for description of the capabilities and media types supported by the terminals. Text based SDP messages, which are sent in SIP message bodies, lists the features that must be supported by the terminals. The real time data is transferred by RTP in conjunction with RTCP. (page 3, para.[0056]). Also, although, the reference Nuutinen teaches SIP authentication process (Fig.14), the references fail to teach the authentication is by means of a check for repeated messages by comparing one of the Timestamp: and Cseq: fields of the message against previously stored messages and wherein the authentication is by means of a comparison of the Timestamp field to the current system time. The reference Geagan teaches that the RTP does provide a packet sequence number that can be used to detect missing packets and to reconstruct an original transmission sequence. (col.2, lines 37-42). The reference teaches that the timestamps or sequence number for the RTP packets (which can be used with SIP as stated above) can be compared with the systems clock and missing packets can be detected. (col. 10, lines

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44-67 and col. 11, lines 1-42). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify and enhance Nuutinen's UAS and authentication by including the functionality of Moore's CG (HNG) such that the UAS with combined functionality will provide compatibility between the SIP and a variety of in-home networking protocols since the CG (HNG) has a translator function providing compatibility and the Gawargy's PDU comprising a SIP message envelope and Geagan's ability to compare the packet timestamp with the system clock and sequence number to byte-by-byte such that the command SIP command messages are authenticated. This is important since VoIP security is one of the major technical issues that have to be defined before VoIP could be used in public networks like the Internet. Internet telephony users do not want that calls could be listened in or sensitive information, like phone numbers, passwords or credit card numbers, to be revealed to an unintended party. Thus not only the audio stream needs protection, but the control signaling requires to be secured as well. Although SIP is specified quite well, it lacks a good specification of security as taught by Nuutinen.

### ***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a). A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date

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the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (703) 305-2655. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A Follansbee can be reached on (703) 305-8498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abp  
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